

PCT

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPE
International Bn



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER

WO 9606605A1

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : A61K 31/20, A23L 1/30	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 96/06605 (43) International Publication Date: 7 March 1996 (07.03.96)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US95/06191 (22) International Filing Date: 12 May 1995 (12.05.95) (30) Priority Data: 08/297,472 29 August 1994 (29.08.94) US (71) Applicant: WISCONSIN ALUMNI RESEARCH FOUNDATION [US/US]; P.O. Box 7365, Madison, WI 53707-7365 (US). (72) Inventors: COOK, Mark, E.; 313 South Segoe Road, Madison, WI 53705 (US). PARIZA, Michael, W.; 7102 Valhalla Trail, Madison, WI 53719 (US). PARK, Yeonhwa; #248, 5002 Sheboygan Avenue, Madison, WI 53705 (US). (74) Agents: HAAS, George, E. et al.; Quarles & Brady, 411 East Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53202 (US).		(81) Designated States: JP, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published <i>With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>
(54) Title: METHOD OF REDUCING BODY FAT IN ANIMALS BY THE ADMINISTRATION OF CONJUGATED LINOLEIC ACID (57) Abstract A method of reducing body fat comprises administering to the animal a safe and effective amount of a conjugated linoleic acid. Methods of preserving or increasing the animal's body protein by administering the conjugated linoleic acid also are disclosed.		

FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

AT	Austria	GB	United Kingdom	MR	Mauritania
AU	Australia	GE	Georgia	MW	Malawi
BB	Barbados	GN	Guinea	NE	Niger
BE	Belgium	GR	Greece	NL	Netherlands
BF	Burkina Faso	HU	Hungary	NO	Norway
BG	Bulgaria	IE	Ireland	NZ	New Zealand
BJ	Benin	IT	Italy	PL	Poland
BR	Brazil	JP	Japan	PT	Portugal
BY	Belarus	KE	Kenya	RO	Romania
CA	Canada	KG	Kyrgyzstan	RU	Russian Federation
CF	Central African Republic	KP	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	SD	Sudan
CG	Congo	KR	Republic of Korea	SE	Sweden
CH	Switzerland	KZ	Kazakhstan	SI	Slovenia
CI	Côte d'Ivoire	LI	Liechtenstein	SK	Slovakia
CM	Cameroon	LK	Sri Lanka	SN	Senegal
CN	China	LU	Luxembourg	TD	Chad
CS	Czechoslovakia	LV	Latvia	TG	Togo
CZ	Czech Republic	MC	Monaco	TJ	Tajikistan
DE	Germany	MD	Republic of Moldova	TT	Trinidad and Tobago
DK	Denmark	MG	Madagascar	UA	Ukraine
ES	Spain	ML	Mali	US	United States of America
FI	Finland	MN	Mongolia	UZ	Uzbekistan
FR	France			VN	Viet Nam
GA	Gabon				

-1-

METHOD OF REDUCING BODY FAT IN ANIMALS BY THE ADMINISTRATION OF CONJUGATED LINOLEIC ACID.

Field of the Invention

The present invention generally relates to animal nutrition. More particularly, it relates to a method of reducing body fat in an animal.

5 Background of the Invention

In today's health conscious society there is a great interest in the fat content of food. There is a special concern about the saturated fat content of meat because of its alleged relationship to blood cholesterol. As a result, most
10 consumers would prefer to have meats of lower total and saturated fat content. As a result some meats, such as duck and beef, are declining in popularity.

There is an obvious need for a safe and effective method of reducing the body fat of animals, especially meat animals.

15 There also is a great interest in dieting and other means of controlling the body fat of humans. There also is a need for preventing the loss of body protein in humans such as for example can occur when they are under attack of cytokines, such as tissue necrosis factor (TNF).

20 As a result there also is a need for both a safe and an effective method for reducing the body fat of humans, and a need for a safe and an effective method of preventing the loss of body protein in humans.

-2-

Brief Summary of the Invention

It is an object of the present invention to disclose a method of reducing body fat in an animal.

It is a further object to disclose a method of increasing
5 body protein or preventing the loss of body protein in humans.

We have discovered a method of reducing body fat in an animal which comprises administering to said animal a safe amount of a compound selected from 9,11-octadecadienoic acid; 10,12-octadecadienoic acid; mixtures thereof; and non-toxic
10 salts thereof (CLA), which is effective to reduce body fat. Our method is effective in reducing body fat in both mammals and avian species.

We also have discovered a method of increasing body protein or preventing the loss of body protein in a human which
15 comprises administering to said animal a safe amount of a conjugated linoleic acid selected from 9,11-octadecadienoic acid; 10,12-octadecadienoic acid; mixtures thereof; and non-toxic salts thereof, which is effective to increase and/or prevent the loss of body protein.

20 It will be apparent to those skilled in the art that the forementioned objects and other advantages may be achieved by the practice of the present invention.

Description of the Preferred Embodiment

In one preferred embodiment of the method of the present
25 invention the safe and effective amount of conjugated linoleic acid, which is selected from 9,11-octadecadienoic acid; 10,12-octadecadienoic acid; mixtures thereof; and non-toxic salts

-3-

thereof is added to the feed of an animal in which it is desired to reduce the body fat. The amount of the conjugated linoleic acid to be added to the animal's feed will vary with the species and size of the animal. However, since the
5 conjugated linoleic acids are natural food ingredients and relatively non-toxic, the amount which can be administered is not critical as long as it is enough to be effective.

The practice of the present invention is further illustrated by the examples which follow:

10

Example 1

SYNTHESIS OF CONJUGATED LINOLEIC ACIDS (CLA)
FROM LINOLEIC ACID AND SAFFLOWER OIL

Ethylene glycol (1000 g) and 500 g potassium hydroxide (KOH) are put into a 4-neck round bottom flask (5000 ml).

15 The flask is equipped with a mechanical stirrer, a thermometer, a reflux condenser, and a nitrogen inlet. (The nitrogen introduced in first run through two oxygen traps).

Nitrogen is bubbled into the ethylene glycol and KOH mixture for 20 min and the temperature is then raised to
20 180° C.

1000 g of linoleic acid, corn oil, or safflower oil is then introduced into the flask. The mixture is heated at 180° C under an inert atmosphere for 2.5 hours.

The reaction mixture is cooled to ambient conditions
25 and 600 ml HCl is added to the mixture which is stirred for 15 min. The pH of the mixture is adjusted to pH 3. Next, 200 ml of water is added into the mixture and stirred for 5 min. The mixture is transferred into a 4 L separatory

-4-

funnel and extracted three times with 500-ml portions of hexane.

The aqueous layer is drained and the combined hexane solution extracted with four 250-ml portions of 5% NaCl solution.

The hexane is washed 3 times with water. The hexane is transferred to a flask and the moisture in the hexane removed with anhydrous sodium sulfate (Na_2SO_4). The hexane is filtered through Whatman paper into a clean 1000 ml round bottom flask and the hexane removed under vacuum with a rotoevaporator to obtain the CLA. The CLA is stored in a dark bottle under argon at -80°C until time of use.

Example 2

Eight pigs (5 kg. body weight) are fed a standard control diet containing 0.5% corn oil and an equal number are fed the identical diet in which 0.5% of the corn oil is replaced by 0.5% CLA. Diet is provided free choice every day until the pigs are 15 kg. in weight. After the feeding period the pigs are sacrificed and the fat, protein, water and ash content of the carcasses is analyzed. It is found that the carcasses of the pigs fed the CLA diet contain less fat than the pigs fed the control diet.

Example 3

The percentage of body fat of male humans, 20 to 45 years old, weighing approximately 10% over their recommended body weight, is determined by the method of body density by hydrostatic weighing. The humans are permitted to eat their

-5-

usual diet to which 0.1 to 10 grams of CLA has been provided as a food supplement. After 4 to 10 weeks, the percentage of the body fat of the humans is again determined and it is found that the change in the percentage of body fat is reduced.

Example 4

Thirty-two mice were fed either a control (5.5% Corn Oil) or a CLA (5% Corn Oil and 0.5% CLA) containing diet for 28 days. Fresh diet were provided every day. Animals were injected intraperitoneally with TNF- α (200 μ g/kg body weight) or PBS (phosphate buffered saline). After 28 days the mice were sacrificed and the fat, protein, water and ash content of the carcasses analyzed. —

Table 1.

Body Composition of Mice Fed
0.5% CLA Containing Diet for 28 days.¹

	Control		CLA	
	PBS	TNF- α	PBS	TNF- α
ECW (g) ²	32.4 \pm 1.1	31.9 \pm 0.8	32.2 \pm 0.8	31.6 \pm 0.9
% Water	66.29 \pm 0.78	66.61 \pm 0.74	70.88 \pm 0.38	71.19 \pm 0.40
% Protein	17.76 \pm 0.30	17.59 \pm 0.23	18.58 \pm 0.14	19.16 \pm 0.06
% Fat	10.13 \pm 1.17	9.36 \pm 0.71	4.34 \pm 0.40	3.66 \pm 0.39
% Ash	3.08 \pm 0.14	3.11 \pm 0.04	3.24 \pm 0.05	3.36 \pm 0.04

1. Numbers are mean \pm S.E. of 7-8 mice per group.

2. ECW: Empty Carcass Weight.

-6-

The results of the test show that although the overall weight of the control mice and the test mice was about the same, the total fat content of the test mice was significantly lower than that of the control mice. In addition, the percent of protein in the test mice injected with TNF- α was higher than in the control mice.

The average body composition of the control and test mice (CLA) is shown in Table 2.

Table 2.

Body Composition of Mice Fed
0.5% CLA Containing Diet for 28 days.^{1,2}

	Control	CLA
ECW (g) ³	32.1 \pm 0.6	31.9 \pm 0.6
% Water	66.46 \pm 0.54	71.03 \pm 0.28
% Protein	17.67 \pm 0.19	18.87 \pm 0.10
% Fat	9.72 \pm 0.67	4.00 \pm 0.29
%Ash	3.10 \pm 0.03	3.30 \pm 0.03

1. Mice were fed either control (5.5% Corn Oil) or CLA (5% Corn Oil and 0.5% CLA) containing diet for 28 days. Fresh diet were provided every day. Animals were injected intraperitoneally with TNF- α (200 μ g/kg body weight) or PBS (phosphate buffered saline).
2. Numbers are mean \pm S.E. of 15-16 mice per group.
3. ECW: Empty Carcass Weight.

In another embodiment of the invention, free linoleic acid is administered to an animal which can convert the

-7-

linoleic acid into CLA or which modulates the level of CLA in the body of an animal or a human. The linoleic acid is converted to CLA in the animal, probably by microorganisms in the animal's gastrointestinal system (S. F. Chin, J. M. Storkson, W. Liu, K. Albright, and M. W. Pariza, 1994, J. Nutr. 124: 694-701.

The method of the present invention may take other forms. For example, the CLA can be administered to an animal in a pharmaceutical or veterinary composition, such as tablets, capsules, solutions or emulsions, containing safe and effective doses of the CLA.

The animal feeds and pharmaceutical or veterinary compositions for use in the method of the present invention are those containing the active forms of the free conjugated linoleic acids (CLA), especially 9,11-octadecadienoic acid and 10,12-octadecadienoic acid or mixtures thereof in combination with a conventional animal feed, human food supplement, or an approved pharmaceutical diluent.

The active forms of CLA include, in addition to the free acids the active isomers of CLA; non-toxic salts thereof; active esters and other active chemical derivatives thereof; and mixtures thereof.

The free conjugated linoleic acids (CLA) have been previously isolated from fried meats and described as anticarcinogens by Y. L. Ha, N. K. Grimm and M. W. Pariza, in Carcinogenesis Vol. 8, No. 12, pp. 1881-1887 (1987). Since then, they have been found in some processed cheese products. Y. L. Ha, N. K. Grimm and M. W. Pariza, in J.

-8-

Agric. Food Chem., Vol. 37, No. 1, pp. 75-81 (1987).

However, animal feeds containing CLA, or its non-toxic derivatives, such as the sodium and potassium salts, as an additive in combination with conventional animal feeds or
5 human foods are believed to be novel.

The free acid forms of the CLA may be prepared by isomerizing linoleic acid. The terms "conjugated linoleic acids" and "CLA" as used herein are intended to include 9,11-octadecadienoic acid, 10,12-octadecadienoic acid,
10 mixtures thereof and the non-toxic salts of the acids. The non-toxic salts of the free acids may be made by reacting the free acids with a non-toxic base.

The preferred method of synthesizing CLA is that described in Example 1. However, CLA may also be prepared
15 from linoleic acid by the action of a linoleic acid isomerase from a harmless microorganism, such as the Rumen bacterium Butyrivibrio fibrisolvens. Harmless microorganisms in the intestinal tracts of rats and other monogastric animals may also convert linoleic acid to CLA
20 (S. F. Chin, J. M. Storkson, W. Liu, K. Albright and M. W. Pariza, 1994, J. Nutr. 124; 694-701.

The CLA obtained by the practice of the described methods of preparation contains one or more of the 9,11-octadecadienoic acids and/or 10,12-octadecadienoic acids and
25 active isomers thereof. It may be free or bound chemically through ester linkages. The CLA is heat stable and can be used as is, or dried and powdered. The CLA is readily converted into a non-toxic salt, such as the sodium or

-9-

potassium salt, by reacting chemically equivalent amounts of the free acid with an alkali hydroxide at a pH of about 8 to 9.

Theoretically, 8 possible geometric isomers of 9,11- and 10,12-octadecadienoic acid (c9,c11; c9,t11; t9,c11; t9,t11; c10,c12; c10,t12; t10,c12 and t10,t12) would form from the isomerization of c9,c12-octadecadienoic acid. As a result of the isomerization, only four isomers (c9,c11; c9,t11; t10,c12; and c10,c12) would be expected. However, of the four isomers, c9,t11- and t10,c12- isomers are predominantly produced during the autoxidation or alkali-isomerization of c9,c12-linoleic acid due to the co-planar characteristics of 5 carbon atoms around a conjugated double-bond and spatial conflict of the resonance radical. The remaining two c,c-isomers are minor contributors.

The relatively higher distribution of the t,t-isomers of 9,11- or 10,12-octadecadienoic acid apparently results from the further stabilization of c9,t11- or t10,c12- geometric isomers, which is thermodynamically preferred, during an extended processing time or long aging period. Additionally the t,t-isomer of 9,11- or 10,12-octadecadienoic acid that was predominantly formed during the isomerization of linoleic acid geometrical isomers (t9,t12-, c9,t12- and t9,c12-octadecadienoic acid) may influence the final ratio of the isomers or the final CLA content in the samples.

Linoleic acid geometrical isomers also influence the distribution of minor contributors (c,c-isomers of 9,11- and

-10-

10,12-, t9,c11- and c11,t12-octadecadienoic acids). The 11,13-isomer might be produced as a minor product from c9,c12-octadecadienoic acid or from its isomeric forms during processing.

5 The exact amount of CLA to be administered, of course, depends upon the animal, the form of CLA employed, and the route of administration. However, generally it will be an amount ranging from about 0.001 g/kg about 1 g/kg of the animals body weight.

10 Generally, the amount employed of CLA employed as a pharmaceutical for humans will range from about 1,000 parts per million (ppm) to about 10,000 ppm of CLA of the human's diet. However, the upper limit of the amount to be employed is not critical because CLA is relatively non-toxic and it
15 is a normal constituent of the human diet (including human breast milk).

 The preferred pharmaceutical and veterinary compositions of CLA contain the non-toxic sodium or potassium salt of CLA in combination with a pharmaceutical diluent. When
20 the compositions are solutions or suspensions intended for oral administration the diluent will be one or more diluents, such as lactose or starch, and the product will be a tablet, capsule or liquid. When the compositions are solutions or suspensions intended for parenteral admini-
25 stration the preferred diluent will be Sterile Water for Injection U.S.P.

 The amount of CLA to be added to an animal's feed to reduce body fat can range from .01% to 2.0% or more by

-11-

weight of the animal's or human's food. It can be added to the food by adding either relatively pure CLA to the food or by adding by-products, such as the fat of an animal which was fed CLA, to the food.

5 An especially preferred composition for use in humans might be a water in oil fat emulsion, such as Intralipid® (Baxter); Liposyn® (Abbott); Nutrilipid® (McGaw); or SoyaCal® (Alpha Therapeutic), in which about 0.5% to about 2% (preferably 1%) by weight of the oil has been replaced by
10 CLA. These fat emulsions all contain emulsified fat particles of about 0.33-0.5 μ m in diameter. In addition about 10% to 20% of the oils which are a mixture of neutral triglycerides of principally unsaturated fatty acids, the emulsions contain Water for Injection USP as a diluent, egg
15 phosphatides (1-2%) as an emulsifying agent and glycerin (2-3%) to adjust toxicity. These emulsions can be infused intravenously to patients requiring parenteral nutrition.

Another preferred composition is a baby formula, in which about 0.5% to about 2% by weight (preferably 0.5%) by
20 weight of the fat content has been replaced by a like amount of CLA or to which 0.5% to about 2% by weight has been added.

It will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art that a number of modifications or changes may be made
25 without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention. Therefore, the invention is only to be limited by the claims.

-12-

Claims

1. A method of reducing body fat in an animal comprises administering to the animal a safe amount of conjugated linoleic acid which is effective to reduce the body fat and the body protein of the animal.
2. The method of claim 1 in which the amount of conjugated linoleic acid administered is about 0.001 g/kg to about 1 g/kg of the animal's body weight.
3. A method of preserving body protein in an animal which comprises administering to said animal a safe and effective amount of conjugated linoleic acid to preserve body protein.
4. A method of increasing muscle protein in an animal which comprises administering to the animal a safe and effective amount of conjugated linoleic acid to increase muscle protein.
5. A method of modifying an animal feed, formula or supplement so that it reduces the body fat of an animal to which it is fed, which comprises adding to said animal feed, formula or supplement a safe amount of conjugated linoleic acid which when the feed is consumed by the animal will be effective to reduce its body fat.

-13-

6. The method of claim 4 in which the animal is a mammal.
7. The method of claim 4 in which the animal is an avian species.
8. A fat emulsion for intravenous or oral administration to which about 0.5% to about 2.0% of conjugated linoleic acid by weight has been added.
9. A baby formula to which about 0.5% to about 2% of conjugated linoleic acid by weight has been added.
10. A method of modifying an animal feed so that the body fat of the animal eating the feed will be reduced, said method comprising adding to said feed a safe amount of a conjugated linoleic acid which when consumed with the feed will be effective to reduce the animal's body fat.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/US 95/06191

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 6 A61K31/20 A23L1/30

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 6 A61K A23L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP-A-0 579 901 (WISCONSIN ALUMNI RESEARCH FOUNDATION) 26 January 1994 * claims 8 and 9; p.5, 1.1-9 *	5,8,10
Y	see the whole document	1-4,6,7,9

X	WO-A-94 16690 (WISCONSIN ALUMNI RES FOUND) 4 August 1994 * p.12, 1.10-14, 1.32; Ex. 6; p.11, 1.26; p.14, 1.10-13; claim 6 *	5,8,10
Y	see the whole document	1-4,6,7,9

X	EP-A-0 376 628 (AMERICAN HOME PROD CORP) 4 July 1990 * Table I-V,; Ex.1,2; claims *	8,9

	-/--	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- * "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- * "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- * "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- * "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- * "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

* "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

* "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

* "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

* "A" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

24 November 1995

Date of mailing of the international search report

04.01.96

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Uiber, P

Internal Application No
PCT/US 95/06191

Internal Application No

PCT/US 95/06191

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	BIOCHEMICAL AND BIOPHYSICAL RESEARCH COMMUNICATIONS, vol. 198, no. 3, 15 February 1994 pages 1107-12, MILLER ET AL 'feeding conjugated linoleic acid to animals partially overcome catabolic responses due to endotoxin injection' * p.1108, "mouse experimental protocol" * see the whole document	5,8,10 9
Y	---	
X	US-A-4 282 265 (THEUER R.C.) 4 August 1981 * col.2, l.54-68; claims ; ---	5,8-10
Y	J. OF NUTRITION, vol. 124, no. 5, May 1994 pages 694-701, CHIN ET AL 'conjugated linoleic acid (9,11- and 10,12-octadecadienoic acid) is produced in conventional but not germ-free rats fed linoleic acid' cited in the application see the whole document ---	1-10
Y	ACS SYMPOSIUM SERIES, vol. 528, 1993 pages 262-71, CHIN ET AL 'conjugated dienoic derivatives of linoleic acid; a new class of food-derived acid' * Tables 1-3; abstract; conclusions * ---	1-10
Y	NUTRITION REPORTS INTERNATIONAL, vol. 38, no. 5, 1988 pages 937-44, FOGERTY ET AL 'octadeca-9,11-dienoic acid in foodstuffs and in the lipids of human blood and breast milk' see the whole document ---	8,9
A	WO,A,92 01450 (LIPOTECH PARTNERS LTD PARTNERS) 6 February 1992 see page 1-35 -----	1-10

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 95/06191

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP-A-579901	26-01-94	US-A- 5430066 US-A- 5428072	04-07-95 27-06-95
WO-A-9416690	04-08-94	US-A- 5428072 EP-A- 0680318	27-06-95 08-11-95
EP-A-376628	04-07-90	US-A- 5000975 AU-B- 627532 AU-B- 4732189 CA-A- 2006136 DE-D- 68914426 DE-T- 68914426 ES-T- 2050824 GB-A, B 2226569 JP-A- 2231037 SG-A- 26694 TR-A- 25188	19-03-91 27-08-92 05-07-90 29-06-90 11-05-94 06-10-94 01-06-94 04-07-90 13-09-90 10-06-94 01-01-93
US-A-4282265	04-08-81	AU-B- 521786 AU-B- 6602081 CA-A- 1138707 GB-A, B 2067587	29-04-82 23-07-81 04-01-83 30-07-81
WO-A-9201450	06-02-92	US-A- 5198250 AT-T- 129894 AU-B- 653353 AU-B- 8236591 CA-A- 2086247 EP-A- 0539448	30-03-93 15-11-95 29-09-94 18-02-92 17-01-92 05-05-93

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- ☒ BLACK BORDERS
- ☒ IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- ☐ FADED TEXT OR DRAWING
- ☐ BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING
- ☐ SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- ☒ COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS
- ☐ GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS
- ☒ LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT
- ☐ REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY
- ☐ OTHER: _____

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.

This Page Blank (uspto)